1.   A method of processing a module having a first programmable configuration or a second programmable configuration, the method comprising:

providing the module with an electronic module tag comprising a tag memory;

electronically obtaining module identification information from the electronic module tag;

verifying that the module identification information matches predetermined identification criteria; and

if the module identification information matches the predetermined identification criteria, selectively programming the module tag with either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein electronically obtaining module identification information occurs after the module is provided with the electronic module tag.

3.   The method of claim 2, additionally comprising:

selectively providing either first configuration setup information or second configuration setup information; and

wherein programming the module tag with either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration comprises:

programming the module tag with the first programmable configuration if the first configuration setup information is provided; and

programming the module tag with the second programmable configuration if the second configuration setup information is provided.

4.   The method of claim 3, additionally comprising determining if the provided configuration setup information is authorized for the obtained module identification information.

5.   The method of claim 4, additionally comprising providing a signal to a user if the provided configuration setup information is not authorized for the module identification information.

6.   The method of claim 3, wherein programming the module tag with either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration comprises communicating either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration over a wireless communication link to the tag memory.

7.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of obtaining module identification information from the module tag comprises:
    transmitting an identification request to the module tag;
    causing the module tag to calculate an identification response in accordance with predetermined identification processes; and
    causing the module tag to transmit the identification response.

8.   The method of claim 7, wherein:
    transmitting the identification request to the module tag comprises transmitting the identification request over a wireless communication link; and
    causing the module tag to transmit the identification response comprises causing the module tag to transmit the identification response over the wireless communication link.

9.	The method of claim 1:

wherein selectively programming the module tag with either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration comprises using a programming system to program the module tag; and

the method additionally comprises, before programming the tag memory with either the first configuration or the second configuration, verifying that programming the tag is authorized by predetermined programming permissions.

10.	The method of claim 9, wherein programming the module tag with either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration occurs only if programming the tag is authorized by the predetermined programming permissions.

11.	The method of claim 1, wherein providing the module with an electronic module tag comprises attaching the electronic module tag to the module.

12.	The method of claim 1, wherein providing the module with an electronic module tag comprises placing the module in a container having the electronic module tag.

13.   A method of processing a module for a printing apparatus, the method comprising:

providing a module having associated with it an electronic module tag that includes a tag memory containing tag authentication information and module identification information;

electronically reading the tag authentication information from the module tag;

electronically verifying that the tag authentication information matches predetermined authentication criteria;

electronically reading the module identification information from the module tag; and

if the tag authentication information matches the predetermined authentication criteria, electronically programming the module tag memory with module configuration information authorized for the module identification information.

14.   The method of claim 13, additionally comprising determining whether the module identification information matches first module identification criteria or second module identification criteria, and wherein electronically programming the module tag memory with module configuration information authorized for the module identification information comprises:

programming the module tag memory with the first configuration information if the module identification information matches the first identification criteria; and

programming the module tag memory with the second configuration information if the module identification information matches the second identification criteria.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein electronically programming the module tag memory with module configuration information authorized for the module identification information comprises:

selectively providing either first configuration setup information or second configuration setup information; and

programming the module tag with either the first programmable configuration or the second programmable configuration comprises:

programming the module tag with the first programmable configuration if the first configuration setup information is provided; and

programming the module tag with the second programmable configuration if the second configuration setup information is provided.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of obtaining module identification information from the module tag comprises:

transmitting an identification request to the module tag;

causing the module tag to calculate an identification response in accordance with predetermined identification processes; and

causing the module tag to transmit the identification response.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein:

transmitting the identification request to the module tag comprises transmitting the identification request over a wireless communication link; and

causing the module tag to transmit the identification response comprises causing the module tag to transmit the identification response over a wireless communication link.

18.   An apparatus for programming an electronic tag associated with a module, the apparatus comprising:

a tag reader for electronically reading tag identification information from individual ones of electronic module tags that are associated with modules;

a processor for verifying that the tag identification information read from a selected one of the module tags matches predetermined identification criteria and for producing configuration information to associate with the tag identification information if the tag identification information matches the identification criteria; and

a tag writer for writing the configuration information to the selected module tag.

19.   The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tag writer writes the configuration information to the selected module tag only if the tag identification information matches the identification criteria.

20.   The apparatus of claim 18, wherein:

the apparatus additionally comprises a user input for receiving configuration setup information;

the processor additionally determines whether the configuration setup information received at the user input is authorized for the identification information; and

the apparatus additionally comprises a user notification element for notifying a user whether the configuration setup information is authorized for the identification information.

21.   The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the user notification element produces an audible signal.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the user notification element produces a visual signal.